

Lesson Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Lesson ID: 72567-98271

Title: LANGUAGE/CULTURAL CARD INADEQUACY

Operation/Exercise Name: RESTORE HOPE

Observed: 23 Jul 1993

Originator: 1ST BN 7THMAR

POC: LT KENNY      Commercial: (619)725-6774    DSN: 3656774

5. (U) OBSERVATION:

Language cards with the simplest terms were not available upon initial deployment. Those made available were not verified as carrying the intended message.

6. (U) DISCUSSION:

The unit was provided hastily prepared language cards that were unverified prior to departure. Language books or authorized language cards were extremely slow in getting down to the user level, making it extremely difficult for units that made contact with locals to be able to communicate with them.

7. (U) LESSON LEARNED:

Each Marine forward deployed requires a simple phrase card that has been verified to be correct.

8. (U) RECOMMENDED ACTION:

That simple, verified language cards for areas of potential Marine operations be created and maintained at each MEF. Language cards would be available to each individual Marine prior to deployment.

9. (U) COMMENTS:

None.

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